

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as provided herewith, including added claims 76-

82.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server includes on the first side of the firewall;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

sending said user request including said SOAP message to a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall;

~~creating a hypertext transfer protocol data (HTTP data) packet of said user request;~~

transmitting said ~~HTTP data~~ SOAP message to a network management agent (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message, in said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall;

sending ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

parsing said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, said ~~data packets~~ SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said ~~data packet~~ SOAP packets into the an appropriate command for the network element; and

transmitting said command to the network element located on the second side of the firewall.

2. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to the application source.

3. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of transmitting in a simple object access protocol encoded request a network element configuration data from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element discovery network server (NED).

4. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said network configuration data comprises port, card, slot and shelf information.

5. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall.

6. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

7. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 5, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

8. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, the application source for communicating with a plurality of network elements located on the second side of the firewall, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the network elements; and

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests to ~~the~~ a proper NEA.

9. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 8, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the network elements; and

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP packets to ~~the~~ a proper network element.

10. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of translating said ~~data~~ SOAP packets into an appropriate command in said translator box understood by the network element.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and an application located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server included on the first side of the firewall;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol HTTP-SOAP packets of said user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

sending said user request to a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall;

~~creating a hypertext transfer protocol data HTTP data packets of said user request;~~

transmitting said ~~HTTP data packets~~ SOAP message to a network management agent (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message in said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall;

sending ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

parsing said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA ~~data~~, SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the application, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said ~~data~~ SOAP packets into ~~the~~ an appropriate command for the application; and

transmitting said command to the application located on the second side of the firewall.

12. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to the application source.

13. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall.

14. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

15. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 13, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

16. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 11, for communicating with a plurality of applications, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said data SOAP encoded requests to the proper NEA.

17. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 16, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said data SOAP packets to the proper applications.

18. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of translating said data SOAP packets into the appropriate command in said translation box understood by the application.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising:

means provided in the application source for building an HTTP-~~data~~SOAP envelope of a user request;

a web server provided on the first side of the firewall for receiving said HTTP-~~data~~SOAP envelope;

a device for removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP envelope to produce a SOAP message, said device provided on the first side of the firewall;

a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall receiving said HTTP-~~data-envelope~~ SOAP message from said web server;

a network management application (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall receiving said HTTP-~~data-envelope~~ SOAP message and building an appropriate nodal model of said user request; and

a translator box provided on the second side of the firewall, said translator box receiving said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message and translating said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message into a command for the network element.

20. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 19, ~~further including a~~ wherein the network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall ~~for parsing said HTTP data envelope~~ parses said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets received from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall and ~~sending the parsed HTTP data envelope~~ sends said SOAP packets to said translator box.

21. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 19 when said translator box includes a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

22. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 20 when said translator box includes a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

23. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 20, further including a network element discovery network (NED) server for receiving said ~~HTTP SOAP envelope~~ SOAP message from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall, said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message including network configuration data.

24. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 23, wherein said network configuration data includes port, card, slot and shelf information for a network element.

25. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 19, wherein said translator box translates said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message into a command understood by the network element.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and an application located on a second side of the firewall, comprising:

means provided in the application source for building an HTTP-~~data~~SOAP envelope of a user request;

a web server provided on the first side of the firewall for receiving said HTTP-~~data~~SOAP envelope;

a device for removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP envelope to produce SOAP message, said device provided on the first side of the firewall;

a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall receiving said ~~HTTP-data-envelope~~ SOAP message from said web server;

a network management application (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall receiving said ~~HTTP-data-envelope~~ SOAP message and building an appropriate nodal model of said user request; and

a translator box provided on the second side of the firewall, said translator box receiving said ~~HTTP-data-envelope~~ SOAP message and translating said ~~HTTP-data-envelope~~ SOAP message into a command for the application.

27. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 26, ~~further including a~~ wherein the network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall ~~for parsing said HTTP-data-envelope~~ parses said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets received from said NMA ~~at sending the parsed HTTP-data-envelope and~~ sends said SOAP packets to said translator box.

28. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 26 wherein said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

29. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 27 wherein said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

30. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 26, wherein said translator box translates said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message into a command understood by the application.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between an application source and a network element, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request;

sending said user request to a read/write server;

~~creating a hypertext transfer protocol data (HTTP data) of said user request;~~

transmitting said ~~HTTP data~~ SOAP message to a ~~second~~ network management application (NMA) server;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message in said ~~second~~ NMA server;

sending data SOAP encoded requests from said ~~second~~ NMA server to a network element agent (NEA);

parsing said data SOAP encoded requests received by said ~~second~~ NMA server in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, data SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said data SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the network element;

translating said ~~data packet~~ SOAP packets into the an appropriate command for the network element; and

transmitting said command to the network element.

32. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 31, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to the application source.

33. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 31 further including the step of transmitting in a data encoded request a network element configuration data from said second server to a network element discovery network (NED) server.

34. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 33, wherein said network configuration data comprises port, card, slot and shelf information.

35. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 31, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said second NMA server.

36. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 31, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

37. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 35, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

38. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 31 for communicating with a plurality of network elements, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the network elements; and
transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests to ~~the~~ a proper NEA.

39. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 38, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the network elements; and
transmitting said data packets to ~~the~~ a proper network element.

40. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 41 ~~31~~, further including the step of translating said ~~data packet~~ SOAP packets into an appropriate command in said translator box understood by the network element.

41. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between an application source and an application, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request;
creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce SOAP message;

sending said user request to a read/write server;
~~creating a hypertext transfer protocol data (HTTP data) of said user request;~~

transmitting said ~~HTTP-SOAP~~ SOAP message to a ~~second~~ network management application (NMA) server;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message in said ~~second~~ NMA server;

sending ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests from said ~~second~~ NMA server to a network element agent (NEA);

parsing said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests received by said ~~second~~ NMA server in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, ~~data~~ said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the application;

translating said ~~data~~ SOAP packets into ~~the~~ an appropriate command for the application; and

transmitting said command to the application.

42. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to said web browser.

43. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said ~~second~~ NMA server.

44. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

45. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 43, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

46. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 41, for communicating with a plurality of applications, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said ~~data~~ SOAP encoded requests to ~~the~~ a proper NEA.

47. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 46, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said data SOAP packets to the a proper applications application.

48. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of translating said data SOAP packets into an appropriate command in said translator box understood by the application.

49. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating between an application source and a network element, comprising:

means provided in the application source for building an HTTP-data~~SOAP~~ envelope of a user request;

a web server for receiving said HTTP-data~~SOAP~~ envelope;

a device for removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP envelope to produce a SOAP message;

a read/write server receiving said HTTP-data-envelope SOAP message from said web server;

a ~~second~~ network management application (NMA) server receiving said HTTP-data-envelope SOAP message and building an appropriate nodal model of said user request; and

a translator box, said translator box receiving said HTTP-data-envelope SOAP message and translating said HTTP-data-envelope SOAP message into a command for the network element.

50. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 48 ~~49~~, further including a wherein the network element agent (NEA) ~~for parsing said HTTP-data-envelope~~ parses said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets received from said ~~second~~ NMA server and ~~sending the parsed HTTP-data-envelope~~ sends said parsed SOAP packets to said translator box.

51. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 48 when said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

52. (Original) The system in accordance with claim 49 when said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

53. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 49, further including a network element discovery network (NED) for receiving said ~~HTTP-data envelope~~ SOAP message from said ~~second NMA~~ server, said ~~HTTP-data envelope~~ SOAP message including network configuration data.

54. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim ~~42~~ 53, wherein said network configuration data includes port, card, slot and shelf information for a network element.

55. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim ~~47~~ 49, wherein said translator box translates said ~~HTTP-data~~ SOAP message into an appropriate command understood by the network element.

56. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating between an application source and an application, comprising:

means provided in the application source for building an ~~HTTP-data~~ SOAP envelope of a user request;

a web server for receiving said ~~HTTP-data~~ SOAP envelope;

a device for removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP envelope to produce a SOAP message;

a read/write server receiving said ~~HTTP-data envelope~~ SOAP message from said web server;

a ~~second~~ network management application (NMA) server receiving said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message and building an appropriate nodal model of said user request; and

a translator box said translator box receiving said ~~HTTP data~~SOAP envelope and translating said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message into a command for the application.

57. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 56, further including a wherein the network element agent (NEA) ~~for parsing said HTTP data envelope~~ parses said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets received from said ~~second~~ NMA server ~~at sending the parsed HTTP data envelope~~ and sends said SOAP packets to said translator box.

58. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 56, wherein said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

59. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 57, wherein said translator box induces a protocol virtual machine (PVM) for understanding object access protocol.

60. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 56, wherein said translator box translates said ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP message into a command understood by the application.

61. (Previously Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the network element into a data packet.

62. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the application into ~~a data packet~~ SOAP nomenclature.

63. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 19, wherein said translator box receives an appropriate command from the network element for translation into a ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP nomenclature.

64. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 26, wherein said translator box receives an appropriate command from the application for translation into ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP nomenclature.

65. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 31, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the network element into a ~~data packet~~ SOAP nomenclature.

66. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the application into a ~~data packet~~ SOAP nomenclature.

67. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 49, wherein said translator box receives an appropriate command from the network element for translation into a ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP nomenclature.

68. (Currently Amended) The system in accordance with claim 56, wherein said translator box receives an appropriate command from the application for translation into a ~~HTTP data envelope~~ SOAP nomenclature.

69. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between an application source and a network element comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server;

transmitting said user request to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box including a simple object access protocol (SOAP) server;

creating a HTTP-SOAP packet of said user request in said translator box;

translating said HTTP-SOAP packet into the an appropriate command for the network element; and

transmitting said ~~commercial~~ command to the network element.

70. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 69, further including the step of including a protocol virtual machine in said translators box for translating a native command generated by said network element into a HTTP-SOAP packet.

71. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 69, further including the step of providing a firewall between said web server and said translator box.

72. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between first and second application sources, comprising the steps of:

providing the first application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server;

transmitting said user request to a translator box associated with the second application source, said translator box including a simple object access protocol (SOAP) server;

creating a HTTP-SOAP packet of said user request in said translator box;

translating said HTTP-SOAP packet into the an appropriate command for the second application source; and

translating said command to the second application source.

73. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 72, further including the step of including a protocol virtual machine in said translator box for translating a native command generated by the second application source into a HTTP-SOAP packet.

74. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 72, further including the step of providing a firewall between said web server and said translator box.

75. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating between an application source and a network element, comprising:

a web server for providing the application source with an applet for driving a user request; and

a translator box including a simple object access protocol (SOAP) server, said translator box including means for crating a HTTP-SOAP packet of said user ~~device~~ request and means for translating said SOAP packet into ~~the~~ an appropriate command for the network element.

76. (New) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of transmitting said command from said translator box to said network element over the world wide web.

77. (New) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of transmitting said command from said translator box to said network element over the world wide web.

78. (New) The system in accordance with claim 19, further including a means for transmitting said command to said network element over the world wide web.

79. (New) The system in accordance with claim 26, further including a means for transmitting said command to said network element over the world wide web.

80. (New) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

- providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server includes on the first side of the firewall;

- creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request;

- removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

- transmitting said SOAP message to a network management agent (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall;

- sending SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

- encoding in said NEA, said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

- transmitting said SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

- translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command for the network element; and

- transmitting said command to the network element located on the second side of the firewall.

81. (New) A system for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising:

- means provided in the application source for building an HTTP-SOAP envelope of a user request;

- a web server provided on the first side of the firewall for receiving said HTTP-SOAP envelope;

a device for removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP envelope to produce a SOAP message, said device provided on the first side of the firewall;

a network management application (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall receiving said SOAP message and building an appropriate nodal model of said user request; and

a translator box provided on the second side of the firewall, said translator box receiving said SOAP message and translating said SOAP message into a command for the network element.

82. (New) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of a user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

transmitting said SOAP message to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said SOAP message into an appropriate command for the network element; and

transmitting said command to the network element located on the second side of the firewall.